

**Floor Remarks**  
**H.R. 6395 FY2021 NDAA**  
**Amendment #90**  
**Rep. Gerald E. Connolly (D-VA)**

- M\_. Chair, I rise today to offer an amendment to the FY2021 National Defense Authorization Act which would reaffirm the United States' commitment to promoting global health security.
- This amendment is nearly identical to the text of the bipartisan Global Health Security Act (H.R. 2166), which passed the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously and was included in the House-passed HEROES Act (H.R. 6800).
- At a time when decisive leadership and robust federal coordination is sorely needed to combat the global COVID-19 pandemic, this amendment would re-establish the government-wide lead for pandemic response by creating a U.S. Coordinator for Global Health Security that should be located at the National Security Council.
- The amendment establishes an Interagency Review Council charged with implementing U.S. commitments under the Global Health Security Agenda and sets important metrics for global health security planning.
- The amendment also requires a global health security strategy that helps other countries strengthen their health care systems and detect and mitigate outbreaks early.
- I want to thank my colleagues: Steve Chabot, Rick Larsen, Brian Fitzpatrick, Ami Bera, and Ann Wagner for cosponsoring this amendment with me.
- M\_ Chair, I yield back.